

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Pietro Padovani ) Re: Disclosure of Information  
Serial No.: 08/809,340 ) Group: 1722  
Filing Date: May 6, 1997 ) Examiner: Mackey, J.  
For: "THERMOFORMING APPARATUS ) Our Ref.: 615920-5 B-3289 PCT  
FOR THERMOFORMABLE MATERIALS..." ) Date: November 24, 1999

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicant's duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, Form PTO-1449 (modified) is attached hereto setting forth documents cited in an International-Type Search Report of the Applicant's related International Patent Application. A copy of the Search Report and several documents cited therein are also enclosed. Those documents cited in the Search Report which are not listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified) are not included, as they have previously been cited in prior Information Disclosure Statements filed in connection with the subject application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider this Information Disclosure Statement on the merits before issuing the next Office Action.

German Patent document nos. DE 3522983, DE 3724178, and 2445177 are in German, and European Patent documents 2 680 153 and 2 680 153 are in French. Since a copy of the Search Report in which said documents were cited is enclosed, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(3) is satisfied.

The citation of these documents noted therein should not be deemed as an admission that they are necessarily relevant to this application or that they are necessarily prior art to this application. The Applicant reserves the right to assert that these documents are not relevant and/or not prior art if and when the need to do so may arise.

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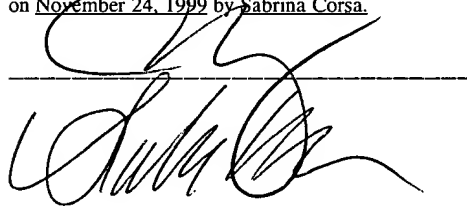
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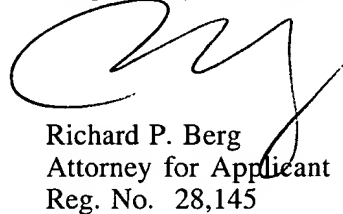
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This Disclosure of Information Statement is being filed after the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, but before the mailing date of either a final action or a Notice of Allowance. Thus, a check for \$240.00 is enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(c). The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231", on November 24, 1999 by Sabrina Corsa.



Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures:      Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)  
                      copy of search report  
                      copies of cited documents  
                      check for \$240.00